

## WESTERN CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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To the Membership of the CT General Assembly:

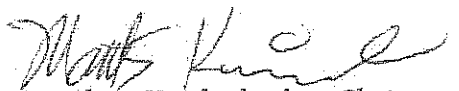
The Western Connecticut Council of Governments, representing the leadership of eighteen municipalities, has voted its unanimous support for Raised Senate Bill #207 entitled "An Act Concerning Funding for a Lyme Disease Prevention and Education Program."

Lyme Disease is a serious threat to the quality of life in Western Connecticut. The BLAST Lyme Disease prevention program cited in the legislation was created by the Ridgefield Health Department using state funds for use in Fairfield County. The BLAST program was approved by the CT Department of Public Health as a model Lyme Disease prevention tool and has proven its value.

Funding included within Raised Senate Bill #207 will enable community based BLAST to expand to reach all of Connecticut. Proposed program administration is integrated into existing state, regional and municipal authorities competent to provide the outreach and meet the challenge.

This section of Connecticut will much appreciate your favorable consideration of Raised Senate Bill #207.

Sincerely Yours,

  
Matthew Knickerbocker, Chairman  
and First Selectman of Bethel, CT